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Atty Dkt No. PP01617.002 PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

COIT et al.

Serial No.: 09/721,479

Art Unit: 1648

Filing Date: November 22, 2000

Examiner: S. Chen

Title:

NOVEL HCV NON-STRUCTURAL POLYPEPTIDE

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed October 21, 2003, with a shortened statutory period of three months for response. Accordingly, a petition to extend time for three months is attached. Reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

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